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KGB mole aided Paris, book says

PARIS (AFP) — A KGB agent in Paris passed on some of the most valuable secrets about Soviet industrial spying ever to reach the West in exchange for a decent living if he left his country, according to a new book.

The book, "The KGB in France," was written by journalist Thierry Wolton. It began serialization yesterday in the weekly newsmagazine Le Point. It said the spy's revelations enabled France to expel 47 Soviet diplomats as spies in 1983 without reprisal.

The mole, who was not identified, was known as "Farewell" to the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire, or DST, the French counterespionage service.

He began working for the DST in the first quarter of 1981, left Paris unsuspected by the KGB in November 1982, and may be in prison in the Soviet Union for murder, the book says.

"Farewell," according to the book, gave the West "the Soviet strategy on the scientific and technological front," including lists of groups spying for the Soviet Union, the names of principal spies, their plans and achievements.

The agent, an official of the KGB department for scientific and technological spying, the book says, also provided information on the estimated yearly savings that industrial spying brought the Soviet Union.

According to reports in Moscow, a senior KGB agent was convicted at the end of 1982 for the murder of a policeman investigating his moral conduct. The DST believes that "Farewell" was that agent.

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